

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

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R 241015 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6976

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2203

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KU TC MU BA QA

SUBJ: KUWAITI FONMIN' S GULF TRIP

REF: KUWAIT 1818; B. KUWAIT 2158

SUMMARY: FONMIN SABAH AL- AHMAD MADE USEFUL GULF TRIP JUNE 3-11
ACCOMPANIED BY 6- MAN DELEGATION. PURPOSES OF TRIP WERE TO INCREASE
COOPERATION BETWEEN GULF STATES AND ESPECIALLY TO IMPROVE KUWAITI-
OMANI RELATIONS. IN GENERAL, KUWAITIS PLEASED WITH REACTION OF
BAHRAIN, ABU DHABI, AND OMAN, ALTHOUGH QATAR NOT PARTICULARLY
COOPERATIVE. HIGH POINT WAS FRANK EXCHANGE BETWEEN SABAH AL- AHMAD
AND SULTAN QABOOS, WHICH EXPECTED TO LEAD TO SOME KUWAITI
ASSISTANCE TO OMAN AND IMPROVED COOPERATION IN FUTURE. END SUMMARY

1. FONMIN SABAH AL- AHMAD MADE TRIP TO LOWER GULF JUNE 3-11
ACCOMPANIED BY OFFICIALS AT UNDERSECRETARY LEVEL FROM MINISTRIES
OF COMMERCE, INFORMATION AND EDUCATION AS WELL AS AHMAD SAQQAF,
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GENERAL BOARD FOR SOUTH ARABIA AND ARABIAN GULF. PRESS INDICATED PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO INCREASE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE GULF STATES IN VARIOUS FIELDS.

2. KUWAITI DELEGATION VISITED BAHRAIN, QATAR, ABU DHABI AND OMAN. IN BAHRAIN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED EMPHASIZING THAT STABILITY AND SECURITY OF GULF COULD ONLY BE WON BY CONTINUING COOPERATION AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN STATES OF REGION WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. FONMIN HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN BAHRAIN. QATAR AND ABU DHABI AT WHICH HE STRESSED PLANS FOR ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN KUWAIT AND GULF STATES. (AGREEMENT WITH BAHRAIN SIGNED IN KUWAIT JUNE 20- SEE SEPTTEL). JOINT KUWAITI- OMANI COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON JUNE 11 STRESSED " THE NECESSITY OF REMOVING OBSTACLES, IF ANY, TO IMPROVE RELATIONS AND COORDINATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AS SUFFICIENT GUARANTEE AGAINST FOREIGN INTERFERENCE." COMMUNIQUE ALSO REITERATED SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN CAUSE BUT DID NOT MENTION DHOFAR REBELLION OR PLANS FOR ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL COOPERATION.

3. COMMENT: FONMIN TOLD AMBASSADOR ON JUNE 23 HE WAS GENERALLY PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF GULF TRIP, MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF WHICH WAS CONSULTATION WITH SULTAN QABOOS. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH KUWAIT'S OBJECTIVE HAD BEEN INCREASED, MULTILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS GULF STATES THIS WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY FEASIBLE SO THAT KUWAIT WAS PROCEEDING TO SIGN AGREEMENTS WITH INDIVIDUAL STATES AND WORK TOWARD MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENT IN THE FUTURE. FONMIN ADDED THAT KHALIFA OF QATAR HAD NOT, HOWEVER, BEEN PARTICULARLY FORTHCOMING, HAVING SENT A WARNING MESSAGE THROUGH SULTAN QABOOS BEFORE SABAH'S ARRIVAL, SAYING THAT HE (KHALIFA) WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO SIGN VARIOUS COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH KUWAIT AND SULTAN SHOULD BE FOREWARNED. KHALIFA ALSO WARNED QABOOS THAT KUWAITI DELEGATION INCLUDED A " COMMUNIST" FROM ADEN (OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO AHMAD SAQQAF WHO HAS NEGOTIATED KUWAITI ASSISTANCE TO PDRY). FONMIN SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH HIS FRANK TALKS WITH SULTAN (SEE REF B) AND THOUGHT THAT KUWAIT WOULD BE ABLE TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO OMAN SOMEWHAT ALONG LINES NOW OFFERED TO YARG AND PDRY IN NEXT FISCAL YEAR.
MCCLELLAND

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